

31.

A stent in the form of a thin-walled, multi-cellular, tubular structure having a longitudinal axis, the stent comprising:

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a multiplicity of sets of strut members, each set of strut members being longitudinally separated each from the other and each set of strut members forming a closed, ring-like cylindrical section of the stent, each set of strut members consisting of a multiplicity of strut elements, each strut element consisting of one curved end strut that is joined at a junction point to one diagonal strut with each junction point being an end point of each curved end strut and each curved end strut having two end points and a center point that is centered between the two end points; and

a multiplicity of sets of flexible links with each set of flexible links connecting two of the multiplicity of sets of strut members, each set of flexible links consisting of a multiplicity of individual flexible links, each individual flexible link being a single undulating structure that extends generally in the longitudinal direction that is parallel to the stent's longitudinal axis and each individual flexible link having two ends, each one of the two ends being fixedly attached to one curved end strut of the multiplicity of strut elements, each flexible link having a link width as measured in a direction that is generally along the surface of the stent and a link wall thickness that is measured in a radial direction from the stent's longitudinal axis, the ratio of the link width to the link thickness being less than one.

32. The stent of claim 25 wherein the ratio of the link width to the link thickness is less than 0.8.